



---

# ROBERT BROOKS

---

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT: Rep. Rob Brooks**

**September 9, 2015**  
**(608) 267-2369**

## **Bill Defining Columbarium Moves Forward**

**Madison, WI**—Yesterday, Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) issued the following statement in response to the Senate Committee on Government Operations and Consumer Protection’s passage of SB 229, legislation that defines columbaria in Wisconsin State Statutes and provides religious associations with the autonomy necessary to comply with the wishes of individuals, while protecting the rights of municipalities to control local zoning.

“I am pleased to see this important piece of legislation continue to move forward. With more individuals choosing cremation over traditional burial, this legislation will ultimately affect legislative district in Wisconsin. We as members of the legislature do not want to deny an individual the ability to have their remains interred in a fashion that complies with their final wishes. This legislation makes much needed changes to cemetery statutes and provides religious associations with the ability to build, oversee and maintain columbaria, located on property they own, much like they currently do with cemeteries,” said Representative Rob Brooks.

In the process of drafting this legislation, we worked diligently to ensure that local zoning rights were protected. This legislation places a one year moratorium for local municipalities to develop zoning ordinances relating to columbaria.

The Senate Committee on Government Operations and Consumer Protection passed the bill unanimously, in yesterday’s executive session. AB 229 is now available to be scheduled for a vote by the Wisconsin State Senate.

###